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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,809	02/11/2004	Hsing Cheng	Optovia 8	5031

7590 07/12/2005
Irwin Ostroff, Esquire
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUNG T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2828

DATE MAILED: 07/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/776,809

Applicant(s)

CHENG ET AL.

Examiner

Dung (Michael) T. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 02/11/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 9-10, and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamauchi et al. (US6459829).

With respect to claims 1, 5, 9, and 13-15, Fig. 1A shows a plurality of n laser sources 21a-23a, each laser source, which, while emitting light and having a preselected portion thereof fed back thereto, causes the fed back portion to be amplified and shifted in wavelength in a first direction which is spaced apart from the center wavelength of the feedback signal; a feedback stabilization arrangement comprising a multiplexer/demultiplexer 24 comprising a plurality of n first input/output ports 24a-24c, each first input/output port being coupled for receiving an output signal from a corresponding one of the plurality of n laser sources for filtering the received signals using a first spectral response and multiplexing the received signals for generating a filtered and multiplexed output signal at a second input/output port 24d thereof for use as an output signal from the feedback stabilization arrangement, and for generating a filtered and demultiplexed feedback signal by the multiplexer/demultiplexer that is wavelength shifted by a predetermined amount and direction for transmission back to an output port 24d of each of the corresponding ones of the plurality of n laser sources for stabilizing each of said plurality of laser sources at the desired output center wavelength; and a reflector 30 located at a predetermined

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signal round-trip time delay distance (col.7, l.22-23) from the feedback stabilization arrangement for receiving the multiplexed output signal from the feedback stabilization arrangement, for passing a first portion thereof therethrough, and for reflecting a remaining second portion back to the feedback stabilization arrangement as a secondary feedback signal that contributes to each of the plurality of n laser sources being set in a stable coherence collapse mode (see col.8, l.14-67 and col.9, l.1-31).

With respect to claims 2, 6, and 10, col.7, l.22-24 discloses delay line located external to the feedback stabilization 24 arrangement and before the reflector 30 for providing a predetermined delay to a signal passing therethrough in either direction such that the secondary feedback signal received at each of the plurality of n laser sources sets the laser source in the stable coherence collapse mode.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-4, 7-8, 11-12, and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Communication Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung (Michael) T Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1949. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 17:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Min Harvey can be reached on (571) 272-1835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-3329.

Michael Dung Nguyen

Acumando P
Examiner
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